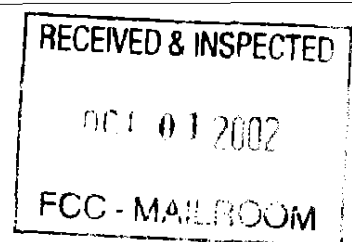


PEMBROKE
TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE



September 24, 2002

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 -12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45
Study area code: 190243

Dear Madam:

Please find enclosed one copy of the "Affidavit of Jerry B. Smith in Support of
Pembroke Telephone Cooperative's Use of Federal Universal Service Support".

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not
hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lisa W. Epperley".

Lisa W. Epperley
Office Manager

Cc: USAC/Irene Flannery
NECA

No. of Copies rec'd _____
List ABCDE _____

**AFFIDAVIT OF JERRY B. SMITH IN SUPPORT
OF PEMBROKE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE'S USE OF
FEDERAL UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT**

STATE OF VIRGINIA

COUNTY OF GILES

RECEIVED & INSPECTED

OCT 01 2002

FCC - MAILROOM

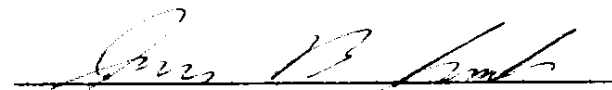
I, Jerry B. Smith, declare as follows:

1. I am President of Pembroke Telephone Cooperative and am authorized to give this affidavit on its behalf. This affidavit is being given to support the certification of the use of federal universal service funds for 2003 as required by 47 C.F.R. [§ 54.313/§ 54.314].

2. Under 47 C.F.R. [§ 54.313/§ 54.314], the Cooperative is required to submit an annual certification to the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") and the Universal Service Administrative Company ("USAC"), certifying that rural incumbent local exchange carriers and/or eligible telecommunications carriers serving lines in the service area of a rural incumbent local exchange carrier within the Commonwealth of Virginia will use federal high-cost universal service support in a manner consistent with section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the "Act"), 47 U.S.C. § 254 (e). Absent such certification, such carriers will not receive universal service support. In order for carriers to receive federal support beginning January 1 of each year, the Commission's certification must be filed with the FCC and the USAC by October 1 of the preceding year.

3. Pembroke Telephone Cooperative hereby certifies that the federal high-cost universal service support Pembroke Telephone Cooperative will receive in 2003 will be used for the services and functionality's outlined in 47 C.F.R. § 54.101(a), and that it will only use the federal high-cost support it receives for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which such support is intended, consistent with section 254(e) of the Act.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.


Jerry B. Smith

Title: President

PEMBROKE TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 24th day of September, 2002.


Notary Public

My commission expires June 30, 2003